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December 22, 2004

Mr. Pedro J. Cuevas  
US Patent Examiner  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Art Unit 2834

By FAX: 703-872-9306

Re.: Application No. 09/895,709

Dear Mr. Cuevas

I write to you to respectfully request action on either of the following :

- a) Re-examination of the subject Application
- b) Issuing a statement confirming that there is no US Patent issued to Staikos et al on this subject

To refresh your memory on the subject

- i. We requested a re-examination of our application so as to consider the corrections (amendments) in the claims
- ii. In a manila envelop we included a copy of the amended claims, a paper model of our invention and a personal check to cover the requested fee of \$100.00
- iii. In a later communication we received from you we were informed that our application was considered abandoned.

I respectfully request of you to re-examine the contents of that manila envelop in search of that personal check - which has not been cashed as yet. If this check is located, please advise if your office will reconsider the abandonment decision and hopefully issue to us a US patent number.

If this will not be done, I would greatly appreciate a statement from you/USPTO stating that there is no US patent issued to Staikos et al. and that what has appeared in print is the Application only (#2003/0001393 A1). This statement is requested by the Greek Patent Office where we applied for patent protection of the invention.

As I am informed, the Greek Patent Office is in the process of issuing a patent but they respect the **"US patent already in print"** thus preventing us in having exclusive rights in Greece. Had our application not been published in the US we would have had exclusive rights in Greece.

Respectfully submitted

Dimitri Staikos  
1306 Quincy Drive  
Wilmington, DE 19803  
FAX#: 302-764-4578

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